

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/757,961

Examiner

Prabodh M. Dharia

Applicant(s)

FILIPPINI ET AL.

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09-12-2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-19 and 21-41.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

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1. **Status:** Please all the replies and correspondence should be addressed to Examiner's new art unit 2629. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted on 09-14-2007 under amendments, new claims and request for reconsideration, which have been placed of record in the file. Claims 1-3,5-19 and 21-41 are pending in this action. Claims 4 and 20 are cancelled.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant has amended independent claims 1,17 and 32 by adding allowable imitations and cancelled claims 4 and 20 to expedite allowability of the instant application. Applicant has added new claims 33-41 with independent claim 33 with allowable limitations to expedite allowability of the instant application. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed on 09-14-2007 with respect to Claim 1,17 and 32 regarding "subjecting said coefficients to a first quantization to generate an undithered quantized coefficient; checking if said undithered quantized coefficient is equal to zero, such that when said undithered quantized coefficient is equal to zero, taking said undithered quantization coefficient as a quantized signal, and when said undithered quantized coefficient is different from zero, generating a dither signal, and adding said dither signal to said coefficients before said first quantization to generate a quantized signal dithered coefficient and subjecting said dithered coefficient to a quantization step to generate a dithered quantized signal" and claim 33 regarding "adding said dither signal to said coefficients and subjecting said coefficients to which said dither signal has been added to quantization to generate a quantized signal; subjecting such quantized signal to inverse quantization; and leaving said signal subjected to inverse quantization exempt from subtraction therefrom of dither signal, wherein said signal subjected to inverse quantization contains artifacts due to the non-linear characteristic of said

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quantization” have been fully considered, extensively searched in prior art; US-PGPUB and are persuasive as they do overcome prior art rejection; which puts application number 10757961 in condition for allowance.

3. Applicant has amended independent claims 1,17 and 32 by adding allowable imitations and cancelled claims 4 and 20 to expedite allowability of the instant application. The amended claims 1,17,32, and newly added claims 33-41 has no new matters added. The amended claims and new claims do have support in disclosure.

4. Applicant has amended drawings per objection by adding prior art labels to drawings 1 and 2. Therefore objection to drawings has been withdrawn.

5. Applicant has cancelled objected claim 4. Therefore claim objection has been withdrawn.

6. Claims 1-3,5-19 and 21-32 are allowed.

7. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant has amended independent claims 1,17,32 by adding allowable limitations and cancelled claims 4 and 20, to expedite allowability of the instant application. Applicant’s arguments filed on 09-14-2007 are convincing. As argued by applicant in remarks under claim rejection on the page 11, paragraphs 4 and 5 the prior art of Lin et al. (US 6,944,226 B1), Srinivasan, Venugopal (US 20040170381 A1), Boyce et al. (US 5,887,115) and Fedele; Nicola

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John (US 5920354 A), the prior art of 1449's, and the prior arts searched in PG PUB, fails to recite or disclose the uniquely distinct features of the independent claims underlined bold limitations below in combination with all the other limitations recited in independent claims:

subjecting said coefficients to a first quantization to generate an undithered quantized coefficient; checking if said undithered quantized coefficient is equal to zero, such that when said undithered quantized coefficient is equal to zero, taking said undithered quantization coefficient as a quantized signal, and when said undithered quantized coefficient is different from zero, generating a dither signal, and adding said dither signal to said coefficients before said first quantization to generate a quantized signal dithered coefficient and subjecting said dithered coefficient to a quantization step to generate a dithered quantized signal.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

8. Claims 33-41 are allowed.

9. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant has new claims 33-41. The independent claim recites allowable limitations to expedite allowability of the instant application. Applicant's arguments filed on 09-14-2007 are

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convincing. As argued by applicant in remarks under claim rejection on the page 12, paragraphs 4-7 the prior art of Lin et al. (US 6,944,226 B1), Srinivasan, Venugopal (US 20040170381 A1), Boyce et al. (US 5,887,115) and Fedele; Nicola John (US 5920354 A), the prior art of 1449's, and the prior arts searched in PGPUB, fails to recite or disclose the uniquely distinct features of the independent claims underlined bold limitations below in combination with all the other limitations recited in independent claims:

adding said dither signal to said coefficients and subjecting said coefficients to which said dither signal has been added to quantization to generate a quantized signal; subjecting such quantized signal to inverse quantization; and leaving said signal subjected to inverse quantization exempt from subtraction therefrom of dither signal, wherein said signal subjected to inverse quantization contains artifacts due to the non-linear characteristic of said quantization.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prabodh M Dharia whose telephone number is 571-272-7668. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM to 5PM.

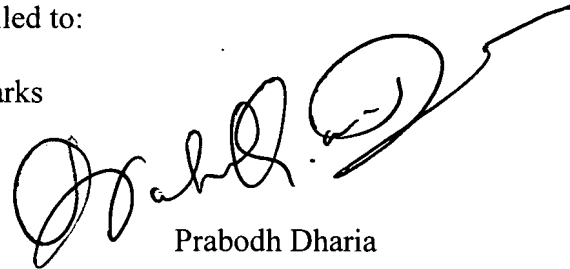
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11. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
12. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231



Prabodh Dharia

AU2629

Full Signatory Authority Program

October 01, 2007